

Directorate of Intelligence
Office of African and Latin American Analysis

7 November 1984

NOTE FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

Bob,

Attached is a proposed response to the request from Malcolm Butler at AID for a paper on the long term implications of the African food crisis. The paper will be done jointly by ALA and OGI. ALA/AF will have primary action. We hope to publish the final paper as an IA or RP.


Chief
Africa Division

25X1

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

DDI- D6355-84

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9 NOV 1984

Mr. Malcolm Butler
Executive Secretary
Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Malcolm:

I have tasked our Africanists and International Economists to prepare a study of the long term economic effects of the ongoing food crisis in Africa. As you suggested, the study will examine and analyze the impact of the setbacks in production, investments, revenues, and export earnings. In addition, we will attempt to draw out the social and political implications of the growing crisis, particularly as they impact on the longer term stability of the affected countries.

We propose to have a typescript version of the study available for your use by the end of the year, to be followed by a more detailed paper that will have a longer shelf life. We will, of course, be in contact with the Africa Bureau staff in the production process. I agree that a presentation of the basic findings to the Wheeler group will be in order.

Please let me know if there is anything else we can do to help as you deal with this problem.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence

25X1

cc: Frank G. Wisner

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AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20523OFFICE OF
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

November 2, 1984

DDI- 06319-84

Dear Bob:

This letter is to confirm our recent telephone conversation in which we discussed a study of the long-term economic effects of the drought and famine currently hitting many African countries. While AID's primary attention is currently focused on short-term relief activities, we are also concerned over the longer term impact of the drought on the economic prospects of these countries. We believe this will be of strategic importance to the United States and have already begun to query our field missions.

Your Agency's ability to give the issue sustained and creative thought would be welcomed. The effort will also be very useful in the short-term, however, as we prepare for broad discussions with Congress beginning in January. An interim report would thus be helpful if considerable time will be necessary for a more detailed analysis. One of the most pressing concerns in mounting a high priority immediate relief effort is to make sure that we do not at the same time neglect the long-term effects.

The basic issue which I suggest you consider is the macro impact of the setbacks in production, investment, domestic revenues, and export earnings which the drought and famine imply. I am sure your staff will have their own ideas, however, on how to frame the analysis and on the factors which ought to be considered.

Our Africa Bureau staff would welcome the opportunity to meet with your staff to discuss the scope and cooperation on the project; possibly a presentation to the Wheeler Group might be useful somewhere along the line.

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,



Malcolm Butler
Executive Secretary

Mr. Robert M. Gates
Deputy Director for Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
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Washington, D.C. 20505